

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (New) An airbag for employment in a vehicle to protect a vehicle occupant facing the airbag, the airbag comprising:

an upper bag portion (3) having an upper rear surface (3c) which cushions generally against the face of the vehicle occupant (H) as the airbag is inflated; and

a lower bag portion (4) joined together with the upper bag portion (3) to form the airbag (1), the lower bag portion (4) having a lower rear surface (4c) which extends rearwardly of the upper rear surface to cushion generally against an abdomen (H1) of the vehicle occupant (H),

wherein the lower rear surface (4c) is joined with side portions (4b,4b) with two joining lines which are respectively curved in such a manner that the lower rear face portion (4c) is more extended toward the occupant (H) than the upper rear face portion (3c), whereby the lower rear face portion (4c) approaches the abdomen (H1) of the occupant (H).

Claim 8 (New) An airbag according to claim 7,

wherein each of the two lower joining lines have each arc shape portions which are continuously integrated therein.

Claim 9 (New) An airbag according to claim 7,

wherein each of the two lower joining lines have each of a plurality of arc shape portions in which each adjacent two arc shape portions have different radii and join continuously with each other.